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Express Check	ACA Standards: 2-CO-1B-05, 2-CO-1B-06, 5-ACI-1B-03, 4-ACRS-7D-17, 4-APPFS-3D-23		
Scott Crow, Director Oklahoma Department of Corrections		Signature on File	

Express Check

Express Check is a system that allows the Oklahoma Department of Corrections (ODOC) to cut checks at facilities for small dollar amount purchases. Express Check was designed and supported by the Office of Management and Enterprise Services (OMES). Express Checks eliminate the need to have an actual cash fund at ODOC locations for purchasing. Although the agency retains statutory authorization for having a petty cash account, 57 O.S. § 513.1, the fund is managed through use of Express Checks instead of actual cash.

I. Authorized Users of Express Checks

A. Express Checks

A fund distributed by Express Checks has been established by the agency and is authorized for use by the following facilities and units: (2-CO-1B-05, 5-ACI-1B-03, 4-ACRS-7D-17, 4-APPFS-3D-23)

1. Department of Corrections Administrative Office
2. Jim E. Hamilton Correctional Center
3. Mack Alford Correctional Center
4. Howard McLeod Correctional Center
5. Lexington Assessment and Reception Center
6. North Fork Correctional Center
7. Oklahoma State Penitentiary
8. Oklahoma State Reformatory

9. Joseph Harp Correctional Center
10. R. B. ("Dick") Conner Correctional Center
11. Jess Dunn Correctional Center
12. James Crabtree Correctional Center
13. Mabel Bassett Correctional Center
14. John Lilley Correctional Center
15. Jackie Brannon Correctional Center
16. Oklahoma City Community Corrections Center
17. Clara Waters Community Corrections Center
18. Enid Community Corrections Center
19. Lawton Community Corrections Center
20. Northeast Oklahoma Correctional Center
21. Charles E. "Bill" Johnson Correctional Center
22. William S. Key Correctional Center
23. Dr. Eddie Warrior Correctional Center
24. Probation and Parole, Region I, Tulsa
25. Union City Community Corrections Center

The chief financial officer (CFO) will approve all expenditures over \$100 but total expenditures will not exceed \$3,000 per month at any location except administration without the express permission of the CFO. If the CFO is unavailable, the CFO may designate the comptroller of Offender Banking Services temporary authority to approve payments over \$100. The business manager or comptroller of Offender Banking Services may approve expenditures for \$100 and under.

B. Budgeting of Funds

Funds disbursed through the express check account will be budgeted as a 705 fund approved by OMES and the Oklahoma State Treasurer (OST). These funds will be budgeted to a central "department" code; however, locations disbursing from this fund will use individual department codes to track payments made.

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Disbursements will not exceed the total amount of 705 funds budgeted. The director of OMES and the director of ODOC will establish the maximum amount that will be maintained (57 O.S. § 513.1). No more than \$120,000 in cash will be maintained in the 705 fund at any one time.

C. Disbursement of Funds

All disbursements of funds will be made using approved procedures developed by OMES using Express Checks. At least two employees, preferably four, at each location that issue Express Check warrants will be trained to operate the Express Check system. Approval requests to access the Express Check system will be made using the forms provided by OMES and the OST.

D. Receipts

Any receipts for Express Check received by field units will be deposited locally into the clearing account, and notification sent to the Budget and Planning office that 705 funds were deposited in the clearing account. If the local unit does not have a method of depositing the funds directly into the clearing account, then the field unit will forward the funds to the Budget and Planning office for deposit into the clearing account, in accordance with the procedures of the bank in which the funds are maintained or the OST, where applicable. (2-CO-1B-06) The deposit slip(s) will be maintained by an employee other than the employee preparing the deposit(s). The funds will be transferred from the clearing account to the 705 fund monthly.

E. Disbursements

All disbursements from Express Check will be in the form of a voucher requiring two signatures. Staff approved by the OST and OMES to operate the Express Check system cannot be signatories of Express Check warrants. An OST signature card containing the signatures of all persons authorized to sign vouchers will be on file at the OST. A new card will be submitted by the business manager, through the Budget and Planning office to the OST each time there is change in staff authorized to sign vouchers. (5-ACI-1B-03)

Disbursements from Express Check will be limited to goods or services that cannot be secured through the normal purchasing and invoice process. Authorized disbursements are as follows:

1. Discharge money for inmates with less than \$50 in their trust fund account;
2. Inmate transportation charges (bus tickets);
3. Lost or damaged inmate property;

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4. Licenses, permits and fees;
5. Livestock and poultry (auctions);
6. Copies of and the return of financial instruments and other banking services; and
7. Inmate execution services.

In rare circumstances when goods or services need to be acquired that are not identified above, unit business staff must contact the CFO for approval of the purchase and the CFO will document approval via electronic written communications.

F. Reconciliation

At the end of each month, the Budget and Planning office will reconcile warrants issued against the budget and available cash identified in the OMES financial systems. The reconciliation function will not be accomplished by anyone who can access the Express Check system and issue warrants.

A record of all receipts and disbursements processed by the facility business office will be maintained by the facility business office. Transactions will be posted on the day they occur. This record will be submitted electronically to the Budget and Planning office on the first business day of the following month.

Daily checks issued, issued and cancelled, and/or spoiled within the same business day, should be reconciled against the check stock numbers of the check stock on hand (i.e., when ten (10) checks are issued, determine that a corresponding change of ten (10) check stock numbers occurred and if more than that, what occurred). Records should be maintained of the check stock numbers used each day. Check issue records provided by the Offender Banking System Check Register and Express Check reports will track checks issued and check numbers assigned. If an unaccountable change in check stock numbers occurs, the Budget and Planning office will be notified immediately.

Additionally, copies of all Express Check transactions of \$100 or more will be submitted electronically to the finance and accounting budget office no later than the 1st business day following the transaction.

II. References

Policy Statement No. P-120100 entitled "Management of State Funds and Assets"

57 O.S. § 513, 513.1

62 O.S.

III. Action

The chief financial officer is responsible for compliance with this procedure and for the annual review and revisions.

Any exceptions to this procedure will require prior written approval from the agency director.

This procedure will be effective as indicated.

Replaced: Operations Memorandum No. OP-120501 entitled "Express Check" dated May 27, 2020

Distribution: Policy and Operations Manual
Agency Website